Discrepancies

Enabling Learning Objectives

1. **Select from a list the two types of discrepancies from the laboratory.**
2. **Select from a list your responsibilities when notified of a fatal or non-fatal discrepancy.**

Discrepancies

- The FTDTL specimen processing section performs a Quality Control (QC) inspection on all specimens received. The QC inspection includes:
  - Packaging requirements
  - Specimen quantity and quality
  - Bottle label: completeness, accuracy, and legibility
  - DD Form 2624: completeness, accuracy, and legibility
- The technician will annotate any and all discrepancies based on a discrepancy list.
- The discrepancy list was developed by DA, the FTDTL, and OTJAG.

Types of Discrepancies

- **Fatal discrepancy** (specimen will not be tested and is destroyed) – a discrepancy is noted that would ultimately invalidate the test results, Examples: Insufficient specimen, SSN on the specimen and DD Form 2624 do not match, etc.
- **Non-Fatal discrepancy** (specimen is still tested) - a discrepancy is noted that would not invalidate the test results, but should have been corrected by the UPL or IBTC, and may discredit the UPL and/or IBTC in a courts martial. Examples: Invalid test basis code, corrections to DD Form 2624 or label not IAW AR 600-85, etc.

Discrepancies

- The IBTC, State Program Manager, MACOM ADCO, or Reserve Command will notify your unit of both fatal and non-fatal discrepancies.
- Non-Fatal Discrepancies
  - Although the specimen is still tested when it receives a non-fatal discrepancy, you should try and prevent the error from occurring on future specimens you send to the laboratory.
  - A positive result that goes to court, that receives a non-fatal discrepancy, may allow the defense to attack your qualifications, work ethic, and the credibility of the test.

Discrepancies

- **Fatal Discrepancies:**
  - **When you are notified of a fatal discrepancy inform your commander of the specimen(s) that were not tested and why. The commander's WRITTEN policy should dictate the procedure to follow on un-tested specimens.**
    - **If written in your Unit Substance Abuse Program SOP, the commander may require soldiers who specimens are not tested to submit to a new specimen.**
  - **Annotate on the Unit Ledger that the specimen was not tested and why.**